

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A monoclonal antibody or fragment ~~preparation comprising antibodies or fragments thereof, wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof~~ 1) binds exclusively to a PrP^{Sc} isoform of the prion protein; ~~capable of selectively binding to a~~ 2) recognizes an epitope having the three dimensional conformation provided by ~~the C-terminal part a~~ protein having the amino acid sequence of (SEQ ID No: 1) Cys-Ile-Thr-Gln-Tyr-Glu-Arg-Glu-Ser-Gln-Ala-Tyr-Tyr) of the PrP^{Sc} isoform of the prion protein ~~or a portion thereof, while not binding to the PrP^C isoform when both isoforms are present in a sample in a native, non-denatured state; and 3) wherein the monoclonal antibody preparation is raised against~~ is directed essentially to a peptide consisting essentially having the amino acid sequence of (SEQ ID No: ~~SEQ ID No: 1~~) or (SEQ ID No: ~~SEQ ID No: 2~~).

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~the protein sequence recognized by the antibody or fragment thereof is~~ directed essentially to a peptide having the amino acid sequence of (SEQ ID No: ~~SEQ ID No: 1~~) Cys-Ile-Thr-Gln-Tyr-Glu-Arg-Glu-Ser-Gln-Ala-Tyr-Tyr ~~or a part thereof~~.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1, wherein the monoclonal antibody or fragment ~~antibodies or fragments thereof~~ is are linked to a marker ~~markers~~.

6. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1, which is derived from the hybridoma cell line CNCM I-2476.

7-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
an antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1 and
a suitable carrier.

13. (previously presented) A hybridoma cell line capable of producing an
antibody according to claim 1.

14. (previously presented) The hybridoma cell line according to claim 13,
which is CNCM I-2476.

15-23. (canceled)

24. (withdrawn) A method of diagnosing Bovine Spongiform
Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease or
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy related diseases comprising:
contacting a specimen with the antibody of claim 1 or a functional part thereof
under immunological reaction conditions; and
detecting any immunological binding between the specimen and the antibody.

25. (withdrawn) A method of treating Bovine Spongiform
Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease or
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy related diseases, said method comprising:
producing the antibody according to claim 1; and
injecting said antibody into individuals in an amount effective to provide an
immune response to the infectious agent of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-
Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease and Transmissible Spongiform
Encephalopathy related diseases.

26. (withdrawn) A kit for the diagnosis of Bovine Spongiform
Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease or
Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy related diseases, said kit comprising:

an antibody according to claim 1, wherein the antibody binds under immunological conditions to a biological sample of an individual infected with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease or a Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy related disease.

27. (withdrawn) The kit according to claim 26, further comprising:
a solid support material,
buffers, and
markers for detection of any immunological binding of the antibody in a biological sample.

28-30. (canceled)

31. (withdrawn) A kit for treating individuals against Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease, a variant form of Creutzfeld-Jacobs-Disease or Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy related diseases, said kit comprising:
an antibody according to claim 1 and
a carrier suitable for administration to an individual.

32. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1, wherein the monoclonal ~~antibodies or fragments thereof are raised against~~ antibody or fragment thereof is directed essentially to a peptide having the amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID No: 1.

33. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof ~~preparation~~ according to claim 1, wherein the monoclonal ~~antibodies or fragments thereof are raised against~~ antibody or fragment thereof is directed essentially to a peptide having the amino acid sequence consisting essentially of SEQ ID No: 2.

34. (canceled)